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J. H. Shivers Plant Farms

ALLEN, MARYLAND

CATALOG AND  PLANTING GUIDE

This Year's Greeting

We wish we could assure you that the needs of all our customers could be fully met — but due to a severe drought this past summer there will not be enough plants to supply the demands of most varieties. Order early and we will do our best not to disappoint you.

Man power shortage is expected to present many problems this season involving limitations.

Along with many other growers, we will have no difficulty in selling all we can produce without the help of our advertising but we feel that our name should be kept before our friends and customers as a symbol of our hopes and aspirations for the better days that will come with the PEACE.

It is our wish that you may have good crops this coming season with sufficient help for picking — believe us we will cooperate with you in meeting your requirements as best we can.

The latch-string still hangs on the outside here at SHIVERS FARMS. A welcome to you if you are ever in our neighborhood.

Our best wishes,

JAY H. SHIVERS.

MY AGREEMENT TO YOU

I sell by catalog only, and to everyone at the same price, filling all orders with the same high-grade stock. Strawberry plants frequently can be shipped during warm spells in winter, and after March first in unlimited quantities. From then until May 1st, I am busy every day filling orders for customers. After May 1st, I can fill a limited number of orders but the earlier you secure your plants the more certain is your success with them.

ONLY FRESH DUG PLANTS SHIPPED

I SHIP OUT ONLY FRESH DUG PLANTS, in slatted crates with plenty of damp moss. I will replace free of charge anything that reaches you in bad condition, provided the transportation company has given its proper dispatch. If it has been too long on the road, refuse to receive it and I will refill your order without additional charge to you.

TRUE-TO-NAME: I use every precaution to have my plants true to name, and if any should prove otherwise I will replace it, but in no case will I be responsible for any sum greater than that paid for the plants.

REFERENCES: My best references are the many satisfied customers, who have entrusted me with their orders. For bank references kindly write the Farmers & Merchants Bank, Salisbury, Md., or the Bank of Somerset, Princess Anne, Md. Enclose stamp for reply.

MY GUARANTEE

I guarantee every plant that I ship to be free from disease, true to name and to arrive in perfect growing condition. If for any reason whatever, you are not satisfied that you have received 100 cents in value for every dollar sent me, I will adjust it to your satisfaction. "Every customer a satisfied customer" is my policy.

J. H. Shivers.

Strawberry Culture

The strawberry is grown in nearly every section of the United States, in parts of Canada and even in Alaska. It is adapted to a wider range of soil and climate conditions than most small fruits. The crop is produced on large acreages for commercial purposes, while the "Strawberry Bed" forms a part of every well kept home garden.

PLANTING GUIDE

In this limited space I will give suggestions for the most necessary details for successful strawberry growing. You may get more information by writing us or from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, at Washington, D. C., who will upon request, send you bulletins on strawberry culture, free and postpaid. A strawberry grower should take this means of keeping in touch with the newer developments and methods being employed in present day strawberry culture.

SOILS. Practically any soil that will grow good field crops will grow good berries—good rich, sandy loam preferred. All kinds of fruit plants demand that the soil be able to hold moisture well, and at the same time drain easily. Excellent results are secured on both sandy and clay types of soil under the proper cultural management. Any soil selected for strawberry growing should be well provided with organic matter as this tends to prevent heaving out of plants in winter and enables the crop to withstand the droughts of summer. Even the extreme types of soils including sandy, gravelly or stiff clays can be made to produce profitable crops of berries where the land is well improved by the addition of organic matter and the proper fertilizers applied.

Organic matter in the form of legume crops, manure or sod should be turned under far enough in advance of planting to allow it to become decomposed in the soil.

SOIL PREPARATION: Soil for setting strawberry plants should be plowed deeply and harrowed until it is loose and level. I like Fall plowing as it allows the soil to settle and turned under vegetable matter to decay. Spring plowing is all right, but Fall plowing is better when possible. The land should be thoroughly harrowed in Spring, followed with a culti-packer or roller to preserve moisture after planting. It is best to plant some cover crop such as oats or rye which is to be plowed under except in the case of sod land which should be left rough over winter to kill white grub.

Several weeks before planting, the cover crop should be turned under or rough land disced thoroughly. A week or 10 days before the plants are set, the final preparation of the plant bed should be made at which time the fertilizer should be applied.

Stable manures are the best fertilizers I have found. They not only furnish the necessary plant food, but also make the heavier soils of finer texture, and the light sandy soils of greater water holding capacity. This may be applied in the fall and plowed in or spread on land after plowing and worked in the soil, well. The best results I have ever obtained is by opening the rows and putting some fine manure in the row during the winter.

However, if coarse manure is not convenient you can get very good results from commercial fertilizer. A mixture composed of 1,500 pounds dissolved bone and 500 pounds super phosphate. The analysis of this mixture is about 3-10-0. Use about 500 or 600 pounds of this per acre in the drill before the plants are set, or alongside of the plants, and thoroughly work in with hoe or cultivator soon after setting the plants. Where applied in the drill, it should be worked in thoroughly, going at least twice to each row with a horse and cultivator to mix it in. If applied broadcast, 1,000 pounds or more per acre of this mixture thoroughly harrowed in before the plants are set, can be used without injury and possibly to advantage. If this amount is to be used, however, I would much prefer to put five or six hundred pounds in the drill and use the balance as a side dressing in late summer. Not more than six hundred pounds should be used in the drill. I have used as much as seven hundred pounds without injury, but have seen severe injury from 1,000 pounds in the drill, not thoroughly mixed with the soil. In no case should nitrate or potash salts ever be used in any mixture drilled under the plants. Contact of any of these material with the roots will surely burn them. In the past many thousands of plants have been killed by such methods. As a top dressing to be used in late summer, or in early spring before growth starts, I have seen 4-8-4 and 7-6-5 fertilizer give excellent results. In a very dry season on very light soil, I have seen fertilizer applied in early spring cut down the yield by producing a heavy growth of foliage which sucked out the scanty supply of moisture.

WHEN TO PLANT

The best time to plant is sometime during March or April, or as soon as ground can be made ready for planting. Order your plants as early as possible; plants set early start quicker and make a more vigorous growth of plants. I begin shipping about March 1st.

Many inquiries come in regards to planting in August. Plants at that season of the year are not matured enough to permit digging or shipping without too much waste. Therefore Spring is the most natural and successful time for planting. Some gardeners and growers insist on setting some during the late summer and early fall before our regular shipping season. If you wish plants at this time we will furnish them. Write for our late summer and fall prices.

METHOD OF SETTING

There are many methods of setting strawberry plants. No particular method has advantage over another except in the saving of labor. The important thing is to get your plants in the ground the same depth as they grew in the original bed and to pack the dirt firmly around the roots. This done, there is little choice as to the method of doing it.

SETTING THE PLANTS

We recommend setting the plants in rows $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 feet apart, or even as much as $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet, if the soil is very fertile. The plants should be set 15 to 24 inches apart in the row, depending on the varieties set, the width of the rows themselves and the fertility of the land. Free growing varieties like Dunlap, Missionary and Blakemore which make large numbers of plants should be set farther apart than varieties like Chesapeake, Lupton and others that make larger plants, but not so many of them. When set in rows 3 feet, 8 inches apart and spaced 18 to 20 inches apart in the row, it requires about 8,000 plants per acre.

CULTIVATION: The cultivation is always important and should be started as soon as the planting is finished. If one will take the trouble to destroy all grass and weeds the year previous on land to be planted in strawberries, it will be found to pay handsomely, as the seeds thus destroyed will not be in your berry beds to plague the grower and run up the cost of hoeing. Keep them clean until frost, hoe shallow so as not to disturb the roots, and success is assured.

VARIETIES: The selection of varieties should be governed by the local conditions and the demands of the markets to be furnished. Information is available from your State Agricultural Experiment Station, local growers or County Agent. Some varieties are very popular in the South, while other varieties are more popular in the Central and West. The North select and find more satisfaction in growing an entirely different variety from the other sections. New varieties are constantly being developed and tested.

PERFECT AND IMPERFECT VARIETIES. Perfect flowering varieties planted alone will mature a crop of perfect fruit. Imperfect flowering varieties should have perfect varieties planted with them, at least one row for every five or six. When two varieties are used in equal amounts, they are often alternated three or four rows of each. In my price list, perfect flowering varieties are followed by "per" and imperfect varieties by "imp".

MULCHING: Before severe weather starts the plants should be covered with 1 to 3 inches of some good mulching material such as hay, straw or pine needles. As spring growth starts this mulch where too thick should be pulled open and arranged under the plant. Plants for the most part are usually able to push through thinner mulches, unless it packs. This mulch serves to support the fruit and avoids rot and grit, making your berries cleaner and firmer to harvest.

MARKETING: The ultimate value of a crop of berries is determined by the selling price. Well grown fruit should receive the greatest care in harvesting, packing and shipping, so that it reaches the consumer in as good condition as possible. There is usually an oversupply of poor fruit, but very rarely a market is glutted with good fruit, well displayed. Intelligent grading pays. A dishonest pack hurts the shipper most. Some form of ventilated crate should be used for best results in transit.

WHAT TO DO WHEN THE PLANTS ARRIVE

Set plants on arrival if possible. It will help if roots of the plants can be dipped in water and allowed to "plump up" for sometime before setting, perhaps over night. At any rate have them thoroughly moistened when planting. If anything prevents immediate planting and the weather is cool, the top of the crate should be taken off and the plants loosened in the crate, still keeping the roots covered with the packing material. Placed where it is cool, plants will keep like this two or three days. If weather too warm to keep plants, or too cold to set them out they should be heeled in some shaded or protected place. Dig a V-shaped trench, open the bundles, spread them out in thin layers with buds just even with the surface of the ground and firm the soil back against the roots of the plants. If necessary, several layers of plants can be heeled in the same place with one or two inches of soil between each layer. Wet the soil and roots of plants thoroughly when heeling is done.

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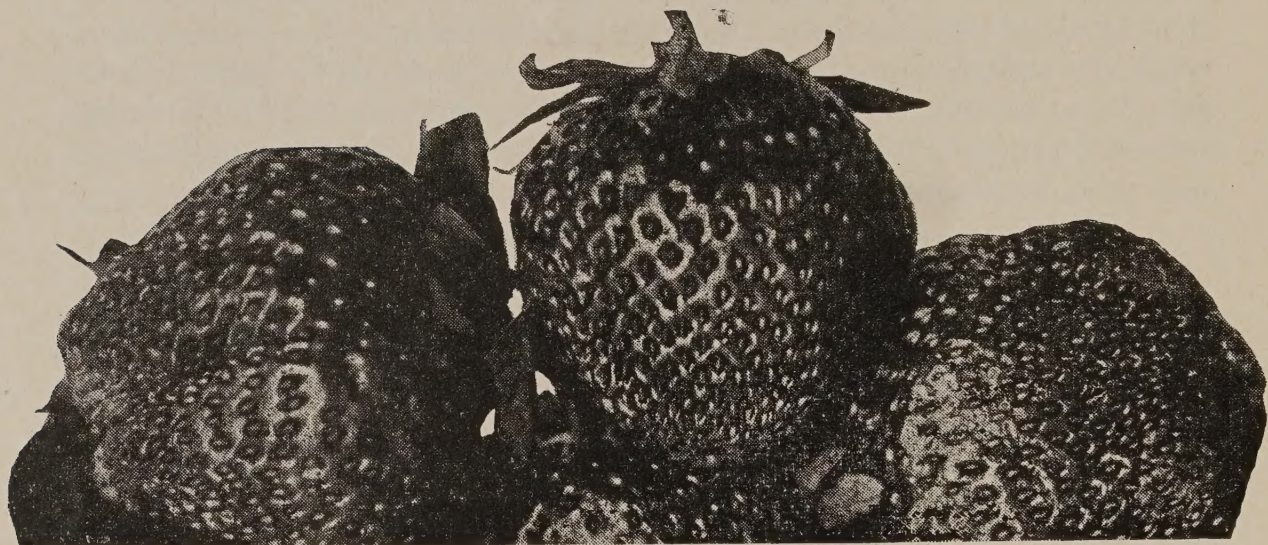
Your plants arrived on the 12th, and were planted the same day. They are all growing fine and I am very well pleased with the way they were sent and the care in packing. We have to renew our plants as they get the black heart and the runners get the same thing. We have to renew from the East. Am glad I know of some one that I can depend on to ship plants so they will grow.

April 21, 1943

B. C. Stratton

Los Angeles Co., Cal.

EARLY VARIETIES



DORSETT

PLANT GROWTH. The Dorsett was introduced several years ago. The old reliable Premier has been replaced by the Dorsett and Blakemore in this section to a large extent. The plant is a very vigorous grower, producing many runners. In good soil, it has a tendency to become too thick and a matted row is the result. The plants are not as large as the Fairfax.

SIZE AND QUALITY. Under favorable conditions the berries are very large and conic in shape. At the proper picking stage, the berries are medium light in color and retain their lightness even after they begin to get quite ripe. The appearance alone should sell them. Its flavor is mildly sub-acid; under normal conditions it is sweet and very pleasing in flavor but not so rich as Fairfax. However when the fruit is over ripe the flavor does not become so objectionable as in many other varieties. In one season of much rainfall in Maryland when berries lacked sweetness the flavor was better than that of Fairfax. It has proven especially well on heavy soil.

PRODUCTIVENESS. They ripen about the same time as Premier, and are very productive. Some of my customers claim they yield fully as well as the Premier, while others say they do not. With me, experience has proven that they do not produce quite so well as the Premier although the quality of berries are better throughout the season. Should you be short of pickers or weather conditions prove unfavorable for picking, Dorsett berries will carry over in better condition than the Premier.



FAIRFAX

This variety was introduced along with the Dorsett. When it first appeared it did prove to be as much in demand as the Dorsett, but for the last few years, the demand has increased, and from my experience with it, I am sure it will become just as popular.

PLANT GROWTH: The Fairfax makes a strong robust growth of perfectly healthy plants. The plants are larger and spaced farther apart than the Dorsett. The leaves are large, dark green, and somewhat glossy.

SIZE AND QUALITY: The berries average very large. In size and appearance they resemble the Chesapeake, having prominent yellow seeds, shiny, almost polished surface which makes the berries very attractive to buyers and upon reaching the market. Appearance alone will make the Fairfax bring top prices on the market.

The berries are light when they first ripen but become dark when over ripe and are sometimes dark when they reach the market. This does not mean a state of decay for they retain their flavor and remain firm for several days after they turn dark. Buyers have learned that the berries even though they become dark in color hold their flavor and firmness. This has given them a high place on the market. From my experience you will not go wrong by trying Fairfax and see how attractive they are. It is a strong competitor for leadership and is gaining in popularity.

PRODUCTIVENESS: The Fairfax will not make as many plants as Dorsett or Premier, but not subject to become too thick for a good crop of fruit. The fruit of Fairfax is larger than Dorsett but does not produce quite as many berries. The higher price received for berries last season has caused a demand for this variety.

FAIRMORE. A cross of the Fairfax and the Blakemore and noted for its high quality in firmness in shipping and very productive. Outlook promises the Fairmore to be one of the best of early berries.

The plant growth is very vigorous, making larger, but fewer plants than the Blakemore does in this section. The leaves are very large, dark and glossy green. The fruit is very firm and more uniform in shape than the Fairfax. It ripens about the same time as the Blakemore. It is recommended for North Carolina and the Southern States.



PREMIER

(Howard 17)

PLANT GROWTH: The demand for this variety last spring proves it is still the most popular early berry yet introduced.

I have a limited supply of Premier plants for the spring orders. If there is a normal demand, some will be disappointed.

Premier not only does well over a large territory but it will grow on nearly all types of soil, producing a good growth of plants that is as near frost proof as any variety yet originated.

SIZE, QUALITY AND PRODUCTIVENESS: The berries are a medium red in color, have a medium size green cap that will stay green throughout the season under favorable conditions. I still think a quart of Premier berries that have been grown right and picked well has a very handsome appearance and is attractive as any variety in its box. The quality will compare well with most other varieties. It truck shipments but do not advise it for ice shipments. It is moderately firm and looks well. Good for local market or long



THE BLAKEMORE

The Blakemore is a U. S. Department of Agriculture cross of Missionary and Premier. This variety is very popular in the area where Klondyke and Missionary are grown.

PLANT GROWTH: Blakemore makes a vigorous growth and should be kept thinned out for the best results. The foliage is healthy and stands up very well during the entire fruiting season.

SIZES AND QUALITY: The berries are very firm and will stand long distance shipping in excellent condition. It has become very popular with the Maryland growers because of firmness and keeping qualities if kept on the vine and also after picking. In fact, it will keep well on the vines several days should weather conditions delay the picking. The fruit is very light in color and very attractive.

PRODUCTIVENESS: It is medium in size if the plants are properly spaced, but when allowed to get too thick the berries will run down fast. If planting Blakemore be sure to have them properly spaced to about 6 plants to the square foot. The fresh fruit is rather tart but is a favorite with the "cold pack" men and is one of the best berries for canning.

START TO SAVE BY ORDERING YOUR PLANTS FROM ME

Other Early Varieties

BELLMAR. A cross of Premier and Missionary. The plants are quite productive. The berries are bright red with a green cap, conical in shape and very attractive. For those not satisfied with Dorsett and Fairfax or Premier would advise giving Bellmar a trial. I have some nice plants for those who like it or who want to give it a trial.

DUNLAP. It is gradually being replaced by Premier because Premier berries are earlier, larger, better quality, and more handsome in appearance. Dunlap is still grown by many of its old friends and we have a nice stock of plants for those who know and want it. Berries are medium in size, bright rich red clear through, and fair to good in quality.

KLONDYKE. The old standby for shipping to distant markets, adapted to southern planting, berries medium to large, attractive red, flesh very firm and red to the core. Medium in quality, good plant maker, and yields good crops. Commands top prices on the market.

MISSIONARY. The leading berry in the Southern States. Will do well on almost all soils but will do better than most on light soil.

The berries are medium in size, dark red in color, with a tart flavor and attractive in appearance. It is a good shipper and has for a long time been a favorite with the juice men. The Bellmar and Blakemore are more popular in this section, but in some parts of the South, Missionary still holds the supreme place.

I have a nice lot of Missionary plants. Let me furnish you with your needs.

NORTHSTAR. A new variety released by the U. S. Experiment Station. It is a cross of the Premier and the Red Heart. The berries are firm enough for shipping with a tart pleasing flavor and rich red color. The plant leaves are above the average in size thus protecting the blossoms and berries from frost. For this reason it is frost resistant. The Northstar produce only a moderate number of plants on good land, therefore it is not advisable to set in poor soil, as only a

KLONMORE. This variety has been developed in the last two or three years. We have never fruited it but from the experience of those who have, it promises to be an outstanding berry for the market. We have a limited supply of plants for our customers this year.

The parents of this variety are the old reliable Klondyke and Blakemore, carrying some of the good qualities of both. It makes a good crop of medium large, conic shape, bright red berries, with a nice green cap.

Would you please advise if I could purchase 2,000 Catskill plants by August 2nd. If so I will forward check immediately after I hear from you. We set out some of your Premier plants this spring and they are doing very nicely.

July 19, 1943

Charles Wm. Frantz

Lebanon Co., Pa.



BIG JOE

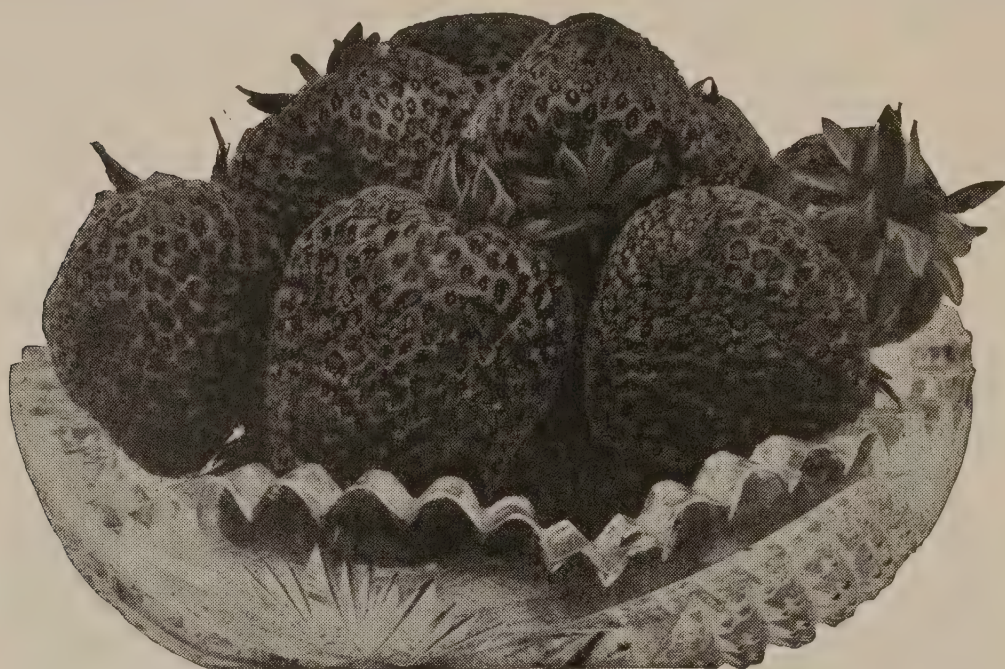
PLANT GROWTH: The plant is a vigorous grower, very healthy and very productive.

SIZE AND QUALITY: The berries are large in size and have a large, bright green cap which increases their attractiveness. They are, also, very fine in quality. Market gardeners who retail their berries, those who sell at the farm or on roadside market, or, in fact, anyone who can get a premium for large, handsome, high quality fruit should include Big Joe in their plantings.

PRODUCTIVENESS: No midseason that I have ever grown comes as near to being a worthy running for Premier, as does Big Joe. This variety does well on nearly all types of soil, but, like most others, responds quickly to good care and fertility. When grown for local or nearby markets where the shipping distance is not so great, Big Joe is one of the best money-makers we have. Locally, it comes in with fine, handsome berries just as many of the early varieties are beginning to run down, and brings a premium of a dollar or two per crate on anything then being offered.

SHELTON. A new variety introduced by the New Haven Experiment Station, Conn.

We have not fruited this variety but from observation and reports of others that this berry is worthy of trial. It is an early berry, bearing a good crop of bright color, fresh looking and very attractive berries. We have a limited supply of this variety.



MIDSEASON VARIETIES

CATSKILL

PLANT GROWTH: This variety is growing fast in popularity from reports I have received from different sections. It is a cross of the Marshall and Premier. It grows unusually vigorous and sets numerous blooms on heavy thick stems. Catskill plants are very conspicuous, due to its large foliage and healthy appearance.

SIZE AND QUALITY: The berries are very large and uneven in shape but uniform in size, light in color, with a very bright green cap. Thus the appearance will make them attractive on the market. It starts ripening about the time of Big Joe and continues to bear large size berries as long as some of the later varieties.

PRODUCTIVENESS: From my experience and talk with growers, it is one of the heaviest mid-season varieties ever introduced equal to Premier under favorable conditions. My customers are using this variety as a late berry as well as mid-season, due to its bearing nice berries as late as some of the late varieties.

— O —

Please ship me 1,000 Fairfax the 12th of April. The 7,000 which you shipped, were nice plants and in good condition. I need 1,000 more to fill my patch. I am mailing you a money order for plants.

April 9, 1943

W. P. Warner

Cumberland Co., Pa.

Other Mid-Season Varieties

ABERDEEN. A comparatively new variety becoming very popular in eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and justly so, for it has to recommend it. The plants show unusual thriftiness, making an abundance of new plants, and we recommend planting the Aberdeen 24 inches apart in the rows. The Aberdeen is unusually productive, equaling or surpassing the Premier. The berries will average larger than Premier, being somewhat pointed in shape, and most every berry is perfect in shape. Its ripening period extends from two to three weeks.

PATHFINDER. This variety originated at the New Jersey Experiment Station. It is a cross of the Premier and the Aberdeen and the tests made of this variety have proven it very satisfactory. Under normal conditions, it ripens about 3 days later than Premier and is very productive over a long season.

From experience, the Pathfinder seems to be one of the new varieties, resistant to the new disease called, red stele.

The foliage is a dark green and will make a well spaced, matted row of medium large plants.

The blossom is perfect, the berries are conic in shape, bright red in color. The size of berries will run as an average, large, with a sub-acid flavor of good quality. I have a limited supply of these plants and would suggest that you order early for this variety.

DRESDEN. Mr. George L. Slate originator of the Dresden and the Catskill. The Dresden is a little earlier than the Catskill.

The plants are very strong and vigorous. The berries are conic to wedge shape and fairly light in color, though moderately firm. Reports are that Dresden is just as productive as Catskill.

—O—

The 20,000 strawberry plants I received from you last year were in excellent condition and started growing immediately, but I had some tough luck — drought got part of the Gandy, aphids attacked the Premier and flood washed out more of the Gandy. However, the Big Joe and Dorsett withstood the drought, aphids and flood, and I expect to have a good crop from them. I hope you will be able to supply me with the above order of Gandy and Premier.

March 11, 1943

Harold Kaiser

Cabell Co., W. Va.

—O—

We have been planting your Premier strawberry plants the last six years and have found them healthy plants and I wish to place my order for 3,000 plants now for March 20. Please send them right away because we have to have them planted in March.

March 15, 1943

Arthur Hecht

St. Louis Co., Mo.



CHESAPEAKE

LATE VARIETIES

CHESAPEAKE. The aristocrat of strawberries when given good care and planted on good soil. It will not stand abuse, seeming to do best in dark, loamy soil and heavier soils where there is plenty of moisture. It will thrive on well-filed new land. Given these conditions, you will find it the most profitable berry to grow. Like the Premier, it is about frost-proof and bears abundantly, the plants having large, healthy foliage. These points of merit enable it to command the highest price possible for berries. The berry is very firm, so you can ship it to distant markets. You will always be able to command the top of the market with well grown Chesapeake berries.



AROMA

AROMA. The best thing in its favor is its selling qualities. On all the Middle West markets Aroma is always quoted higher than average varieties, which in a season of over-production means a lot. My own experience leads me to recommend it as a good pollinizer, though it has not usually been recommended for that purpose. I have found it better than Chesapeake, for it is much more vigorous in growth. Certainly no grower can make a mistake in planting Aroma as it is a real money-maker in many sections.

GANDY. One of the leading late kinds and by some still considered the best. The only trouble is, that on dry soils or in a very dry season it cannot be depended on to bear well. Of extra shipping and selling qualities, it is still the leading market berry for late in some large berry producing centers. A free plant maker and good grower generally, yet sometimes failing in vigor.

—O—

The plants which I ordered arrived Saturday 27th, in fine condition. I wish to thank you for your promptness.

March 21, 1943

A. T. Crockett

Roanoke Co., Va.

—O—

The plants arrived in a good condition. The ground is too wet just yet to set them in. Our Spring is very late. There was snow on the ground Saturday morning.

May 3, 1943

E. M. Van Bumble

Broome Co., N. Y.

LUPTON

LUPTON. The fruit is very firm and extremely handsome, in fact, I do not know of any kind in existence today that shows up to better advantage when crated, and it is as productive as any kind we have ever grown that was a real fancy berry. It is a perfect flowering kind and is suitable for pollenization purposes if needed, ripening in midseason. It is not a rampant plant maker, but has never failed to make a good bed for us and the plants are heavily rooted and full of vigor. I say again, if you want a strictly fancy berry, plant Lupton, but we do not advise that it be planted on any but a good, rich soil. I have an unusually fine stock of plants for this year and feel sure that those who plant these will pick a heavy crop of berries in 1944. In this immediate vicinity it has partly supplanted the long time popular Big Joe, chiefly because it suffers less frost damage.

WILLIAM BELT. This variety is the standard of excellence for quality. Berries average large in size, being somewhat irregular in shape, having an attractive cap, and the berries themselves are a bright, glossy red, which makes them very handsome. On any market where quality and appearance predominate among the buyers the William Belt will prove a good money-maker for the grower. It does best in the middle and northern states. It can be depended on for plant growth and productiveness. I recommend it to lengthen the Chesapeake season with a high quality berry.

—O—

Received my strawberry plants and so far I am very well satisfied. I wish a few more and am sending you a small order. Please rush same.

April 19, 1943

Walter Coleman

Middlesex Co., Conn.

—O—

We received the 500 strawberry plants. They are in fine condition and we are very well satisfied.

April 20, 1943

Charles L. Onstead

Somerset Co., Pa.

—O—

Received plants Friday in good condition.

Thanks for same.

March 20, 1943

Otis M. Sanders

Pasquotank Co., N. C.

—O—

Received my plants O.K. Please send this order to my friend as given on order sheet.

March 29, 1943

Harry L. Pyle

Atco Co., N. J.

SAMPLE. The berry ripens medium late, a little later than the Big Joe. It holds up well throughout the season. An old reliable variety, especially through Pennsylvania and the Middle West.

GIBSON (Parsons' Beauty). Plants very productive, berries very good in quality and excellent for canning. I do not recommend it, however, except for a moist, swampy soil of fair fertility; but when given that, it is one of the greatest berries ever grown, provided the season is not too wet at picking time. If there is much rain when they are ripening they are sure to rot badly.

BIG BILL. A very late variety that we have found, bearing even later than the Chesapeake. It is not inclined to bed heavily. The berries are large with a large green cap. Any one interested in a very late berry will do well to try them on a small scale. We have only a limited supply of plants.

I have bought strawberry plants in large quantities from you for several years and I would like for you to reserve 15,000 Premier plants for me. I am sending check to hold same and will send balance when I advise you to ship them.

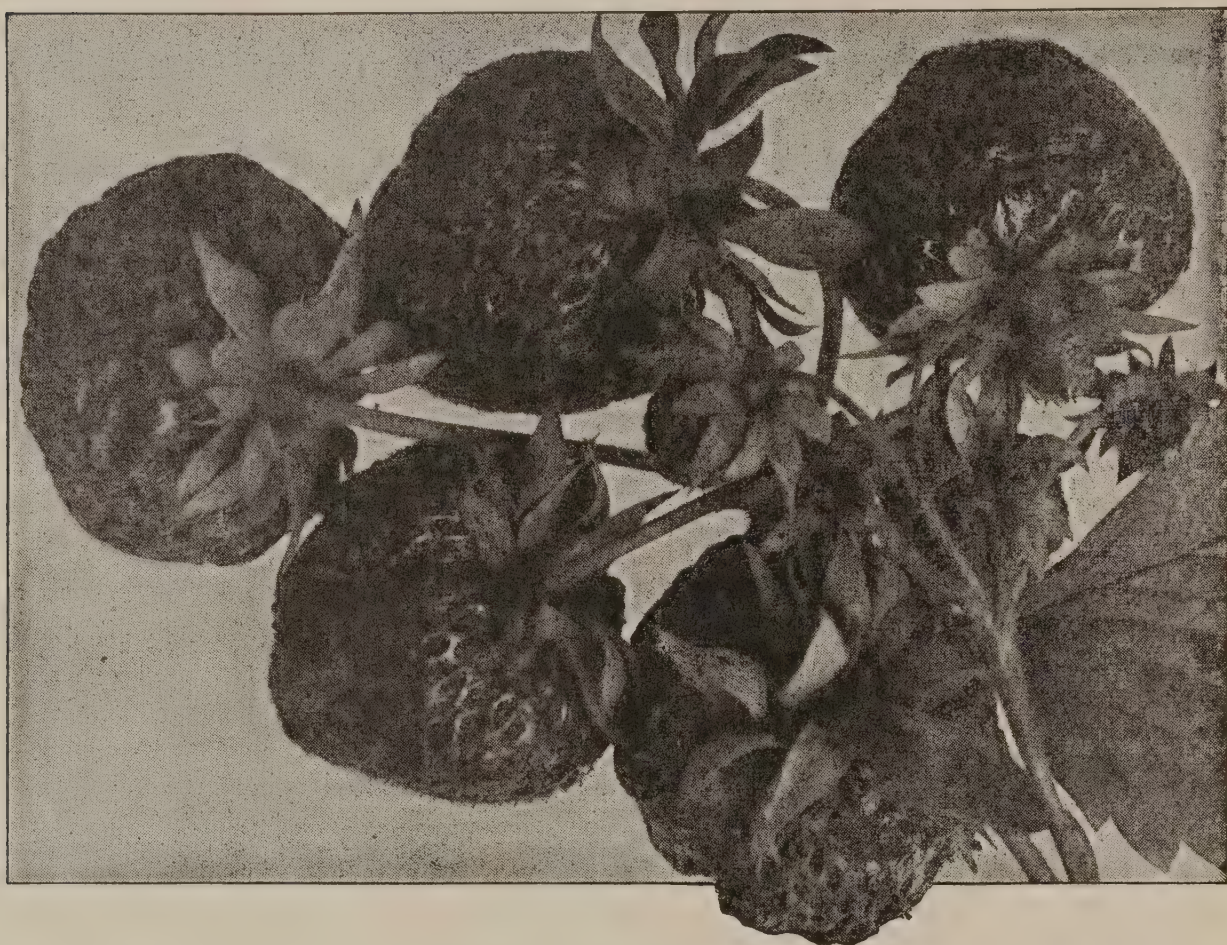
Feb. 25, 1943

John R. Weigle

Perry Co., Pa.



Use our plants and have fields like this



EVERBEARING VARIETIES

MASTODON

King of Everbearers

GROWTH OF PLANTS. If planted in good land under favorable conditions, they will make a good bed of plants, but under reverse conditions, they are inclined to stool up. The plants are large, the foliage having a dark green glossy color. The berries are of good size, rich red in color and are firm enough to ship to moderate distance. Every gardener or farmer should have a plot of Mastodon or Gem plants or both for Fall berries.



GEM

From our experience, this variety is equal to any Everbearer and really has surpassed all, even the Mastodon over a test of several years.

GROWTH OF PLANTS. Under most conditions, Gem will make a good bed of plants. The plants are very prolific. We have seen the runner plants put out blossom before they had taken root. The berries are medium to large in size, a bright red color and a very good flavor.

LUCKY STRIKE

This variety of the everbearers is one of the best plant makers of them all. The plants are very healthy and vigorous.

Size and Quality: The berries are large, have a nice green cap, light in color and are seedy like the Chesapeake. They are very attractive in the basket and are firm enough to carry well.

Productiveness: Lucky strike plants are not as productive in the fall as some of the other everbearers. The spring crop is very heavy and the berries demand the top price, due to the attractive appearance.

WHEN TO ORDER AND HOW TO SHIP

ORDER as soon as you have decided what varieties and how many you want. Write plainly so that I can get your name and address correctly for prompt acknowledgment of order and delivery of plants.

EXPRESS is generally satisfactory and the best way to ship plants if your order is large, or if the distance is great. Express rates are still nominal.

PARCEL POST is generally cheapest and most satisfactory for small shipments and with larger shipments in adjoining and nearby states.

Strawberry plants packed for shipment weigh approximately 4 pounds per 100 plants. Make up your order, calculate the approximate weight and if you do not know your zone from Allen, Maryland, use distances given herewith or ask your postmaster.

With zone rate published here you can easily calculate the amount of postage to send. Be sure to send postage enough as any excess will be returned. If sufficient amount to pay parcel post charges is not sent with the order, the plants will be sent by Express collect, or by parcel post, C. O. D., for the amount of postage due, as I cannot keep accounts and send bills for small items of postage.

We advise having plants sent by Parcel Post whenever it is possible.

Last year plants were held up several days in transit by Express. War materials are given a priority over other shipments by the Railway. A few of our Express orders were held up too long in transit somewhere and were received in bad condition. Parcel Post, sometimes higher, delivered the orders promptly and satisfactory.

Zone	Miles	1st Pound	Additional Pounds
1st	0 to 50	8 cts.	1 1-10 ct. for each or fraction
2nd	50 to 150	8 cts.	1 1-10 ct. for each or fraction
3rd	150 to 300	9 cts.	2 cts. for each or fraction
4th	300 to 600	10 cts.	3½ cts. for each or fraction
5th	600 to 1000	11 cts.	5 3-10 cts. for each or fraction
6th	1000 to 1400	12 cts.	7 cts. for each or fraction
7th	1400 to 1800	14 cts.	9 cts. for each or fraction
8th	1800 up	15 cts.	11 cts. for each or fraction

INSTRUCTIONS TO PURCHASERS

TERMS. Cash with order. Remit by Money Order, Bank Draft, Cash in Registered Letter or Personal Check.

PACKING. No extra charge made for packing at these prices.

TIME OF SHIPMENT. I ship plants from Nov. 1st to May 1st.

TRUE TO NAME. I take every precaution to have all plants true-to-name and I will refund your money if any prove otherwise, but I cannot be responsible for any sum greater than the cost of the plants.

LATE SHIPMENTS. All plants ordered shipped after May 1st will be packed and shipped in best possible condition but at purchaser's risk.

A Few Testimonials From Our List Of Satisfied Customers

I received my plants O.K. The large box was carried through
overdue by Express but everything arrived fine.

April 20, 1943

Harry Stoner

York Co., Pa.

O

Plants received in very fine condition. Thank you very much for
this courtesy. You may be assured of our future orders.

April 29, 1943

Mrs. Beckie Weyant

Blair Co., Pa.

O

Will you let me know by return mail if I can still buy plants. My
relative, Mrs. Ben Nissley, got some from you earlier and she is very
much pleased with hers. I would like the Premier.

May 17, 1943

Elmer R. Guhl

Lancaster Co., Pa.

O

Just a card to let you know I received my strawberry plants in
fine condition and was very much pleased with them.

April 20, 1943

Martin Lefever

Lancaster Co., Pa.

O

I received my strawberry plants in good condition and they were
certainly fine big plants. I have all of them set out and am glad to
make a good report. Thanks!

April 26, 1943

Miss Helen Groff

Scioto Co., Ohio

O

We have a fine looking patch of plants from the plants which we
bought from you last year. I think it is the best we have ever had.
Plants arrived in good condition on 1st of April, just the right time for
planting here.

Feb. 16, 1943

Mrs. Margaret Hezel

St. Louis Co., Mo.

O

We received the plants Monday, May the 3rd. Plants were in
excellent condition and we are very much pleased with them.

May 6, 1943

J. J. Cobb

Montgomery Co., Md.

O

I want to order some Premier strawberry plants for fall planting.
Please notify me of your prices and date of shipping. The plants pur-
chased in the Spring are excellent.

July 15, 1943

Ellen Winsor

Dukes Co., Mass

This space may be used to keep a record of your expenses.

*f*rom _____

J. H. Shivers Plant Farms



Allen, Maryland

Strawberry Plants



J. H. Shivers Plant Farms, Allen, Maryland

Price List of Strawberry Plants

BY EXPRESS, RECEIVER TO PAY CHARGES

Early Varieties	25	50	100	250	500	1,000	5,000
Bellmar	\$1.00	\$1.50	\$2.50	\$ 5.00	\$ 7.50	\$13.00	\$62.50
Blakemore .....	.60	1.00	1.60	3.20	5.00	8.00	37.50
Dorsett	1.00	1.50	2.50	5.00	8.00	12.75	62.50
Dunlap .....	.60	1.00	1.60	3.20	5.00	8.00	37.50
Fairfax	1.10	1.80	2.80	5.75	8.50	14.00	67.00
Fairmore .....	.95	1.50	2.50	5.00	7.50	13.00	52.50
Klondyke .....	.60	1.00	1.60	3.20	5.00	8.00	37.50
Klonmore .....	.60	1.00	1.60	3.20	5.00	8.00	37.50
Missionary .....	.60	1.00	1.60	3.20	5.00	8.00	37.50
North Star	1.15	1.90	3.00	6.00	9.40	15.00	72.50
Premier .....	.95	1.55	2.50	5.00	7.80	12.50	60.00

Mid-season Varieties

Aberdeen	1.00	1.50	2.50	5.00	7.50	13.00	62.50
Big Joe	1.10	1.80	2.80	5.75	8.50	14.00	67.50
Catskill .....	.95	1.55	2.50	4.60	7.80	12.50	60.00
Dresden	1.10	1.80	2.80	5.75	8.50	14.00	67.50
Pathfinder	1.15	1.90	3.00	6.00	9.40	15.00	72.50

Late Varieties

Aroma	1.10	1.80	2.80	5.75	8.50	14.00	67.50
Big Bill	1.10	1.80	2.80	5.75	8.50	14.00	67.50
Chesapeake	1.15	1.90	3.00	6.00	9.40	15.00	72.50
Gandy	1.15	1.90	3.00	6.00	9.40	15.00	72.50
Gibson	1.10	1.80	2.80	5.75	8.50	14.00	67.50
Lupton	1.10	1.80	2.80	5.75	8.50	14.00	67.50
Sample	1.00	1.80	2.80	5.75	8.50	14.00	67.50
Wm. Belt	1.10	1.80	2.80	5.75	8.50	14.00	67.50

Everbearing Varieties

Gem	1.95	3.15	5.00	10.00	16.15	25.00
Mastodon	1.95	3.15	5.00	10.00	16.15	25.00

ORDER EARLY. Order early and be sure of getting the varieties that suit your soil and markets. If it is not convenient to send the whole amount 10% of your order will hold your plants. Send balance when ready for the plants.



J.H. Shivers Plant Farms
Allen, Wicomico Co., Maryland

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